

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Official Action dated December 28, 2006. In response to the issues raised, we offer the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the printhead assembly of the present invention is supplied with power to both of its ends in parallel. This is described at page 20, lines 17 to 20.

Claim 4 has been amended to align with the revised definition of the invention in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

Claims – 35USC§102

Claims 1 to 5 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,612,240 to Silverbrook et al.

Amended Claim 1 clarifies that the power is supplied to both ends of the printhead assembly in parallel. This minimizes resistive losses and allows the bus bars to be configured so that they can accommodate thermal expansion.

The arrangement disclosed in '240 is wired in series, not parallel. The power and data for the printhead ICs is fed through the USB connector 124 at one end of the first printed circuit board (PCB) 108 which is in turn 'daisy-chained' to the second PCB 110 via the connection 122.

Accordingly, the cited disclosure fails to anticipate the combination of elements defined by amended claim 1. Likewise, claims 2 to 5 are also novel by virtue of their dependence (directly or indirectly) from claim 1.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the claim rejection has been successfully traversed. Accordingly favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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